

A profile of Keith McIntyre, President, Mohawk College

initiatives put forth by the 1980-81 and 81-82 Students' Representative Councils and start the process by which a vibrant, effective Alumni Association could be developed at the College.

His interest in Alumni work stems back to his days in North Bay when he was involved with the Alumni Association at Canadore. He speaks with pride of the Honorary Life Membership the Association bestowed on him when he left for his hard work and strong support of its efforts.

As Mohawk's President, Mr. McIntyre sees many benefits of renewed Alumni involvement in College life. These include helping with Co-operative Education Program job placements, student referral and advising, through Mohawk's 56 Program Advisory Committees, on course content and equipment needs.

He also hopes that the Alumni will take on a prominent role in maintaining the College in the future.

"When you think about it, graduates have received a heck of a lot from this College," he said. "I would hope that over time, the Alumni will appreciate more and more deeply how they have benefited in so many ways from their College experience and would hope they might be in a position to help maintain the College."

Asked if there is one thing he would like to see at Mohawk in the years ahead, Mr. McIntyre spoke of increased status for our graduates, something he sees the Alumni themselves playing a crucial role in accomplishing.

"I'd like to see the Student Centre, the Alumni Association and the (Mohawk) Foundation that's just been established all functioning well and aimed in the direction of providing that kind of support for our graduates (that will bind them) to the College and help society accord them the same kind of status as that accorded to university graduates."

While Mr. McIntyre said it was impossible to speculate on the look of Mohawk College ten years down the road, he suggested that the education Mohawk offers in the 1990's will be determined in large measure by the kind of working world the students of the day must be trained to enter.

With the manpower requirements of manufacturing industries shrinking due to decreased demand and workplace automation, spurred by computerization, he said Mohawk probably will have to change its profile of programs and concentrate more on producing graduates to meet the service sector needs of a society with highly-automated, highly-productive industries. He said the service sector (entertainment, food, hospitality, travel, information, processing, consultants, etc.) is the fastest growing job opportunity sector in society.

Increased demand for retaining of older workers hit by industrial shut-downs and conversions must also be addressed by the College, he says, because he feels the trend of plant closures and layoffs of the 1980's will likely carry through into the next decade.

Services now provided by volunteers, such as those for senior

citizens, may become another legitimate source of employment in the future as the Baby Boom generation grows older, he suggested.

The challenges and demands of his position don't leave much spare time for Mr. McIntyre's favorite leisure pursuits. When time allows, however, he can be found working on his cottage in the Parry Sound area, on the curling rink, in the squash court or introducing student government leaders to the game of "Creek" on his billiard table at home.

Something which appeared only recently on his list of off-hour interests is Opera Hamilton, something he says developed over time.

"I guess it's like learning to like olives," he says. "There comes a time in your life when suddenly they become tasty and attractive."

Mr. McIntyre and his wife of 27 years, Beverly, reside in Burlington. They have two children, Margaret and Keith. Keith will graduate this year from the Business Program at McMaster University while Margaret has done her best to keep Dad's pay cheque coming in. Last summer, she graduated from Mohawk's Co-op Computer Systems Technology Program, and she is now employed in the new Manufacturing Systems Department at CAMCO Inc. in Hamilton.



Keith poses with former colleague, Dean McCubbin of Canadore College in North Bay, during a Mohawk — Canadore inter-faculty hockey game. Keith took to the ice as "Mo the Hawk" while Mr. McCubbin appeared as the Canadore panther.